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SPECIAL ECONOMIC AND DISASTER RELIEF ASSISTANCE: SPECIAL PROGRAMMES OF ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE

Assistance for the rehabilitation and reconstruction of Liberia

Report of the Secretary-General

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. By its resolution 46/147 of 17 December 1991, the General Assembly, inter alia, called upon the international community and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to provide Liberia with technical, financial and material assistance for the repatriation and resettlement of Liberian refugees, returnees and displaced persons and for the rehabilitation of combatants and their families, as provided for in the national action plans.

2. The Assembly also called upon the international community and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to provide adequate assistance to programmes and projects identified in the 1991 report of the Secretary-General on emergency assistance for Liberia (A/46/403).

3. The Assembly requested the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to coordinate the work of the United Nations system and to mobilize assistance for the rehabilitation and reconstruction of Liberia; to undertake, in close collaboration with the authorities of Liberia, an overall assessment of needs, with the objective of holding as soon as possible a round-table conference of donors for the rehabilitation and reconstruction of Liberia, as a basis for the earliest resumption of the process of development; and to report to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session on the implementation of the resolution.

4. The present report describes the emergency assistance activities carried out by the United Nations system in Liberia since the issuance of the previous report of the Secretary-General (A/46/403) in September 1991. The response of Member States to the appeals addressed to them in the resolution is also reviewed. The question of emergency humanitarian assistance to Liberian refugees in the neighbouring countries is addressed in a separate report of the Secretary-General (A/47/529) prepared in accordance with General Assembly resolution 46/108 of 16 December 1991.

5. During the period under review, every effort was made to maintain a coordinated United Nations response to all needs arising from the Liberian crisis. The Office of the United Nations Special Coordinator for Emergency Relief Operations in Liberia (UNSCOL), based at Monrovia, is responsible for coordinating all institutional and operational arrangements for relief programmes and other humanitarian activities in Liberia. The Office of the Special Coordinator includes representatives of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the World Food Programme (WFP), the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the World Health Organization (WHO).

6. UNHCR is responsible for field coordination at the subregional level with respect to refugees and returnees. United Nations resident coordinators in the host countries are responsible for national programmes and activities with respect to affected host country populations. At United Nations Headquarters,

overall responsibility for coordinating the relief programmes is vested in the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs.

7. The operational framework for the current programme of humanitarian assistance to Liberia was set out in the consolidated appeal issued by the Secretary-General in July 1991. (For a summary, see A/46/403, paras. 23-56.) The present report provides information on progress achieved in implementing the programme, highlights areas still requiring support from the international donor community and, in some instances, identifies new or revised programmes responding to subsequent developments.

8. During the review period, the organizations of the United Nations system, working in close cooperation with international and local non-governmental organizations, have been able to expand considerably the scope and intensity of their relief operations. Four United Nations operational centres were opened in strategic rural areas to enhance the delivery capacity of the organizations concerned. Most areas can now be reached without difficulty, and a viable country-wide emergency assistance programme has been instituted. Nevertheless, security and logistic problems continue to hamper relief operations. The recrudescence of armed hostilities in August 1992 (see para. 47 below) hindered relief work in the affected areas and gave rise to new mass displacements. It is hoped that renewed progress in the peace process sponsored by the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) will clear away the existing impediments and hasten the transition from emergency relief to reconstruction and development.

II. SECTORAL REVIEWS

9. As outlined below in the sectoral descriptions, significant progress has been achieved in meeting the urgent needs of the Liberian people in many areas, thanks to the generous response of the international community. The lack of support for non-food aid programmes, however, is a matter of serious concern.

10. An adequate and timely response to the full range of urgent needs of the affected population is required. In addition to considerations of human well-being, the full implementation of the emergency relief programme could contribute to the peace process under way in the country. For example, within the framework of the programme, it has been possible to initiate technical meetings between the various parties, permitting an integrated nation-wide approach for the sectors considered but also contributing to a sense of mutual confidence.

A. Food and nutrition

11. As at July 1992, the World Food Programme and other food donors, principally the Catholic Relief Services, had delivered 102,000 metric tons of assorted food commodities, roughly half to a Monrovia beneficiary population estimated at 600,000, the rest to accessible needy populations up-country.

12. The result of the food aid effort in Monrovia has been dramatic. The critically high 35 per cent rate of acute malnutrition that was recorded in December 1990 dropped to 1.9 per cent a year later. However, the basic socio-economic conditions in Monrovia have not improved. Isolated from the hinterland and with a large part of its growing population unemployed, Monrovia remains dependent on relief food. A serious but sensitive effort is required to reverse this trend. Outside Monrovia, food aid interventions have also resulted in a significant decline in malnutrition rates.

13. In the last year, the rice harvest, while better than originally foreseen, has fallen far short of requirements. The unpredictable security situation has hampered normal agricultural activities and, at times, precluded relief interventions in Grand Gedeh, Cape Mount, Bomi and Lower Lofa counties, where needs remain great. Recent on-the-spot nutrition assessments in Cape Mount and Bomi counties which revealed alarmingly high malnutrition rates prompted a major multi-partner intervention for general food distribution and school feeding services in the two counties.

14. For the immediate future, food aid will continue in Monrovia while slowly shifting the main emphasis from general distribution to food-for-work, vulnerable group feeding and school feeding. In addition, an effort will be made to monetize an increasing part of the food earmarked for general distribution while paying careful attention to market conditions and nutritional levels. Outside Monrovia, it is hoped that a major effort by the relief community in supplying and distributing agricultural tools and seed rice will result in a significantly improved harvest later in the year. The food security situation in the rural areas will be closely monitored so as to safeguard seed rice from consumption and thus increase local food production.

15. Food aid requirements identified in the appeals of the Secretary-General totalled $86.6 million against which $64.8 million has been pledged, leaving a funding gap of $21.8 million. Under present circumstances, the full funding of the previously targeted amount will permit the successful implementation of activities in this sector in 1992.

B. Health and medical care

16. The health situation in Liberia remains alarming. The incidence of disease is high, especially in women and children, the most prevalent afflictions being malaria, malnutrition, diarrhoea, respiratory infections, scabies, tuberculosis, sexually transmitted diseases and worm infections. There is a significant population of displaced persons and refugees who need to be provided with health care. In many regions of the country, health facilities still have to be rebuilt, medical equipment has to be installed, and drugs have to be supplied. Much of the physical and logistical infrastructure of the health sector has to be reconstructed, including appropriate manpower development.

17. With UNICEF and WHO as lead agencies, United Nations emergency intervention in the health and medical sector has been both extensive and multifaceted. It has ranged from supporting vaccination campaigns, a major field hospital and several maternal and child health centres in Monrovia to providing essential drugs and medical equipment to non-governmental organizations partners working the interior, such as Médecins sans Frontières/Belgium, as well as operating an effective multi-county disease surveillance and control programme. Médecins sans Frontières/Belgium has itself supported and managed an extensive network of health facilities in Monrovia, Nimba, Lofa, Grand Gedeh and the south-east.

18. However, the sustainability of the progress achieved is made more difficult by the withdrawal or planned withdrawal of several emergency relief organizations. In the absence of national institutions to assume the activities of those organizations, the relief community, including notably UNICEF and WHO, faces the enormous task of preventing further deterioration in the health sector of the country while catering for returning refugees, ex-combatants and the displaced. The current sectoral priorities are identified below with a brief description of resource requirements.

Private health institutions

19. These facilities continue to offer essential health services in the face of extreme difficulties, including dire shortages of drugs, equipment, personnel and supplies. Traditional sources of support are no longer available and a total of $2.6 million is required for essential support over the next six months.

Disease control, including HIV/AIDS

20. WHO proposes to continue its programmes of data collection, prevention and treatment of communicable and non-communicable diseases, at an estimated cost of $200,000. A separate component costing $300,000 would be directed to preventing the spread of HIV through health education, condom promotion, counselling and HIV testing.

National drug services

21. UNICEF, WHO and some non-governmental organizations are supporting the re-establishment of the National Drug Services. This will require major investments in buildings, manpower, stocks, training and administrative systems. The estimated cost for one year is $4,950,000, comprising $4,175,000 for the purchase of essential drugs, $475,000 for non-medical supplies and $300,000 for logistical support.

Expanded programme of immunization

22. In order to prevent epidemics, the immunization programme needs to be revitalized throughout the whole country. The total cost is estimated at

$2,560,000, to include the purchase of cold-chain equipment, the provision of logistic support, the procurement of vaccines, training of health workers and community education.

Nutritional surveillance programme

23. Child malnutrition is still prevalent in areas outside of Monrovia. It is proposed to establish a country-wide nutritional surveillance system and carry out small-scale nutritional interventions as required, at an estimated cost of $400,000.

Health information and education

24. Two elements require immediate attention: establishment of a country-wide health information system and health education. The cost of these activities is estimated at $380,000.

Maternal and child health

25. The maternal and child health services, partially restored in Monrovia, need to be expanded to all parts of the country. Requirements for expansion into the rural areas, focusing on refresher courses, logistics, data collection and supervision, are estimated at $500,000.

Mental health, drug abuse and psychological counselling

26. During the war many people suffered psychological trauma, contributing to a high incidence of mental disability and drug and alcohol abuse. A plan has been proposed to establish the mental health care system, including psychological counselling, with a strong community rather than institutional orientation. It involves the establishment of small in-patient treatment units in two hospitals, out-patient clinics in the areas served and training of health workers and community leaders. Initial costs are estimated at $800,000.

Other priorities

27. In addition to the activities outlined in section C below, WHO will initiate a water quality and pit latrine construction programme to prevent epidemics of cholera and other contagious diseases at community level ($150,000). Programmes for the control of diarrhoeal disease ($300,000) and malaria ($400,000) will also be implemented.

28. The 1991 consolidated appeal identified resource requirements for the health sector at $20 million. The recorded response to the health sector appeal thus far totals only $10.7 million. Taking into account funds already pledged and subsequent programme revisions, the additional resource requirements amount to $9.3 million. The full funding of these activities is essential if UNICEF, WHO and partner non-governmental organizations are to succeed in their efforts to prevent a return to the desperate emergency conditions that prevailed at the beginning of 1991.

C. Water, power and sanitation

29. Médecins sans Frontières/Belgium and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) initially made major contributions in the water, power and sanitation sector. UNICEF has however now had to assume full responsibility. It should be noted that the emergency interventions undertaken or contemplated are essentially stop-gap measures. The much-needed basic rehabilitation of the water, power and sanitation infrastructure will require major capital investments which are beyond the scope of this programme.

30. Even within this limited framework, it has been possible to re-establish a water treatment system in Monrovia that can provide an adequate amount of water, although distribution throughout the city is a continuing problem. Energy supply for vital water treatment installations in greater Monrovia is erratic but adequate power should be assured by the end of 1992. Major repairs to the water distribution network have reduced the enormous losses experienced after the war, and the cleaning of the sewage and surface water networks has contributed to the avoidance of any major epidemics.

31. In 1992 emergency interventions in Monrovia include the following:

(a) Continuing efforts to rehabilitate the water treatment plant, repair the transmission and distribution system and monitor water quality;

(b) Rehabilitation of the sewage disposal system (cleaning of blocked sewers, replacement of a main sewer pipe, repair of pumping stations and collapsed sewers, and monitoring of sewage disposal system in Monrovia);

(c) Maintenance, repair and overhaul of power units and auxiliary systems to ensure the availability of reliable power to the water treatment plant, sewage system and vital clinics and schools;

(d) Development of an environmentally safe strategy for the management of solid waste disposal and control of sewage outfalls;

(e) Cleaning and rehabilitation of surface water drainage systems;

(f) Development of popular programmes and community participation in public health and sanitation;

(g) Construction of shallow wells in areas not covered by the water supply systems, to provide an emergency supply of water in the event of the failure of the urban water supply system.

32. In the wake of the civil conflict, the urban water supply systems in the nine stations outside of Monrovia were not operational. With extreme difficulty, operations were restarted at Gbarnga and Buchanan in December 1991. In the rural areas, the situation is even worse. It is estimated that 70 per cent of the wells equipped with pumps are not working. Many wells need cleaning and almost all need disinfection. Unfortunately, in 1991 little could be done in many areas because of security conditions.

33. In 1992, two major emergency interventions are being implemented:

(a) Emergency rehabilitation and operational maintenance of piped water supply systems at Gbarnga, Kakata and Buchanan;

(b) Emergency rural water supply and sanitation, to include rehabilitation or construction of wells with hand pumps, construction of sanitation facilities in population centres, and the setting up of institutional arrangements to ensure regular maintenance.

34. The 1991 appeal identified requirements amounting to $7.7 million for this sector, against which contributions of $6.2 million have been received. The implementation of the activities outlined above requires an additional funding of $1.9 million including newly identified activities.

D. Education and children in difficult circumstances

35. A holistic approach has been pursued in the provision of services to orphaned and abandoned children, involving vocational training and counselling in addition to shelter, food and medicine, while inputs into the educational sector have increased steadily.

36. These efforts have resulted in a gradual increase of school enrolment figures, which have now reached 70 per cent of the pre-war level in greater Monrovia and 28 per cent in the country as a whole. However, the need to maintain strong external support in this field is underlined by the continued paralysis of national structures, the large number of disabled and malnourished children who remain untreated, and the inability of families and communities to provide for their children's basic needs.

37. For 1992 the general thrust of the programmes is being maintained, with special emphasis on projects involving:

(a) Community-based rehabilitation of the physically handicapped;

(b) Counselling training for 80 professionals to work as trainers in the health and educational systems;

(c) Neighbourhood self-help programmes, including day-care for children of working women, income-generating skills training for women, girls and former youth combatants, literacy training and renovation of primary schools;

(d) Family tracing and reunification efforts for some 1,000 orphaned, abandoned and displaced children, together with temporary assistance to 500 children still in orphanages;

(e) Vocational training (carpentry, masonry and low-cost building technology) for disadvantaged, displaced and former combatant youths;

(f) Development of peace education programmes.

38. Urgent efforts should also be devoted to reviving the formal educational system so that children, including those of returning refugees, can benefit from the learning opportunities and structured environment offered by primary and secondary schools.

39. Taking into account funds already pledged, an additional amount of $4.8 million is required for implementing the activities described above.

E. Agriculture

40. In view of the devastating impact of the Liberian civil war on farmers, the main thrust of the emergency agricultural programme has been to provide farmers with basic farm inputs, such as rice and vegetable seeds and hand tools, as the corner-stone for reactivating this vital sector.

41. The programme has provided over 1,500 tons of rice seed, some 10 tons of assorted vegetable seeds and approximately 50,000 assorted hand tools. While smaller than originally foreseen, the rice harvest at the end of 1992 is none the less expected to be substantially higher than that of the previous year, which only filled one third of the consumption requirement. However, there will still be a significant shortfall and, given the lack of public finance and the low level of purchasing power among the population, food aid will continue to be required to fill this gap.

42. In addition to emergency input requirements FAO has formulated some eight agricultural projects aimed at reviving Liberian agriculture. These are in the critical areas of seed production, input supply, reactivation of rural blacksmithery, agricultural marketing, small-scale fisheries and small livestock industries. Two other projects cover the resettlement and rehabilitation of young people, notably ex-combatants, and processing of gari and farina from cassava.

43. Additional resources of $3.6 million are needed to fund these activities.

F. Refugees, returnees and displaced persons

44. The security and political situation in the country has so far made organized repatriation of Liberians from countries of asylum premature. UNHCR has none the less developed contingency plans for organized repatriation when conditions allow. Steps will be taken to repair key roads and bridges and rehabilitate proposed transit shelters and install the water points necessary to prepare for organized repatriation. At the same time UNDP, through the Office of the Special Coordinator, is working with United Nations agencies in the design of a programme for reintegration of returnees and displaced persons in the main areas of origin. The programme will also benefit ex-combatants and those who remained in their places of origin. While modest funding is needed for the design of this scheme ($200,000), significant additional resources will be required for its implementation.

45. The relative improvement in the security situation in the past year encouraged thousands of Liberians to opt for spontaneous repatriation. UNHCR has agreed to facilitate the travel of spontaneous returnees and to intensify its assistance on their arrival in Liberia. On the basis of a projected total spontaneous arrival of some 100,000 Liberians in the coming months, and including preparatory needs for the organized repatriation, UNHCR has allocated a budget of $2,944,415 (excluding food needs which will be supplied by WFP from its regional stocks).

46. During the past 18 months some 115,000 Sierra Leonean refugees have fled to the western Liberia border counties of Lofa (90,000), Cape Mount (20,000) and Bomi (5,000). UNHCR has responded with an emergency assistance programme of $2,514,780 to cover the period from July to December 1992. A recent nutritional survey in northern Lofa found refugees there in very poor condition and a crash relief programme of food and medical attention has been initiated, but it is hampered by virtually impassable roads. Additional assistance is urgently required to support the growing refugee population and carry out limited infrastructural work to facilitate access to the affected areas.

47. After the outbreak of fighting in Cape Mount and Bomi counties between forces of the National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPFL) and the United Liberation Movement for Democracy in Liberia (ULIMO), some 20,000 to 25,000 displaced persons arrived in Monrovia in late August. These included an estimated 5,000 Sierra Leonean refugees, adding to a population of 4,000 Sierra Leonean refugees already in Monrovia. Another 15,000 to 20,000 displaced persons have moved to the Bong Mines, Todee and Kakata areas. More are expected to arrive in Monrovia as the military situation in Cape Mount and Bomi remains tense and prone to escalation. Meanwhile, UNHCR implementing partners in food distribution, health and nutrition that were operating in the two counties have been redeployed to Monrovia to assist in efforts to deal with the emergency caused by the influx.

48. The majority of Sierra Leonean refugees in Monrovia have expressed a wish to return to their home country. UNHCR is devising plans, in consultation with the Government of Sierra Leone, to facilitate the repatriation of those who opt to return voluntarily.

G. Reintegration of former combatants

49. An estimated 70,000 to 100,000 persons have taken part in the civil war as armed combatants. These include a large number of teenagers and some women. Many participated in violent acts and suffered traumatic experiences as well as physical wounds and psychological problems.

50. In the Yamoussoukro agreement of 30 October 1991, it was foreseen that combatants would be disarmed, encamped and demobilized. The implementation of these provisions has been delayed but the agreement remains valid.

51. At this juncture, the number of combatants to be encamped (and for how long) and the number to be returned directly to civilian life is still unknown, as is the total number of camps to be established. Assistance has been sought by the parties involved to facilitate this process, in particular to help reintegrate ex-combatants into the community. This might entail screening to determine the background and skills of former combatants as well as their aspirations and need for psychological counselling.

52. Assistance might also be considered in terms of literacy and vocational training and provision of basic commodities such as food and health services. Support may also be required to facilitate the productive reintegration of former combatants into their home communities.

53. Some will need tools or agricultural inputs to contribute to their own upkeep and community welfare, while others should return to school or university. Food-for-work programmes to repair damaged facilities could also be established. Integrated community-based programmes are being designed to promote the reinsertion of combatants (with returnees and other displaced persons) in areas of concentration such as Nimba, Lofa, Bong and Grand Gedeh counties. Additional funds will need to be sought as the extent of programme requirements is defined.

H. Programme support and management

54. In the absence of a functioning country-wide government structure and basic facilities and suitable infrastructure, an ad hoc framework to facilitate the implementation of emergency operations throughout Liberia by the international community has had to be established. In this context, UNSCOL is providing indispensable logistic and administrative support for the United Nations agencies operating in Liberia, and for international non-governmental organizations and local self-help groups. This has included provision of international and national staff, establishment of operational centres up-country, transport facilities for relief supplies and personnel (vehicles and aircraft), the organization of security coverage, communications links (within the country and to the outside) and accommodation to assist both United Nations and non-governmental organizations activities. This logistic support has been especially valuable in effectively mobilizing and coordinating the international response to the Liberian emergency both at the outset of the operation and as the programme has expanded up-country.

55. In the course of the last year four UNSCOL operational centres have been established, at Gbarnga, Zwedru, Harper and Voinjama, together with a temporary facility in Cape Mount County to support international relief efforts up-country. The operational centres have been instrumental in extending the outreach of emergency programmes to the most needy areas of the country, and establishing a reliable network for the distribution of relief supplies in conjunction with the Liberian organization Liberians United to Save Humanity (LUSH). The centres provide an operational framework for collaboration among United Nations and non-governmental organizations in

distributions of food, agricultural tools and seed rice and in projects in the fields of health, water and sanitation and education. The effectiveness of this mechanism in the Liberian context has been well demonstrated and it is anticipated that future operational centres will need to be established to support relief, reintegration and reconstruction efforts.

56. The contribution of dynamic, experienced United Nations Volunteer (UNV) specialists to the Liberian emergency programme continues through the operational centres, which are managed by UNV logisticians. Other UNV specialists in agriculture and health have also been fielded to improve the effectiveness of community-based programmes in these areas. Additional UNV specialists will be required to strengthen the capacity of LUSH to implement relief, repatriation and rehabilitation programmes in areas of expertise such as community development and health.

57. The Special Emergency Life Food (SELF) community structure which is now well established in Monrovia has developed a unique housing enumeration scheme which provides the basis for general food distributions and other community-based rehabilitation programmes. With United Nations assistance, democratic elections of representatives for community relief teams were recently held in 180 neighbourhoods. This relief structure is continually adjusted with respect to displaced refugees and is now being used for health and education programmes (including for AIDS) reception of returnees, school feeding, food-for-work and vulnerable group programmes. SELF is now also organizing community development programmes through the community welfare teams. Up-country, LUSH is being helped to develop and strengthen a similar structure. Working in close collaboration with the operational centres, community welfare teams are distributing relief supplies, food and agricultural inputs and are gearing up to manage community-based self-help efforts.

58. As the scope of the emergency programme up-country has developed, the need for management of the monitoring, evaluation and reporting activities of the operational centres has become increasingly evident and an Emergency Programme Management Unit has been established to provide the necessary coherence and support to the Special Coordinator and partners in the international relief effort. The Unit also assists with the management of a new experimental rice monetization scheme, which has been introduced by WFP to test the potential for the importation of commercial rice to reduce the dependency on relief support. The proceeds from that scheme are used to finance projects that deal with bottlenecks in emergency operations and community-based non-governmental organization initiatives.

59. Further support is still required to transport emergency goods and personnel in the context of the country-wide programme. Progress is also being made on arrangements to use up-country air fields, in particular to facilitate distribution and movement of personnel supplies as roads become impassable in the south-eastern region in the rainy season. The Institute for Liberian Languages (TILL), a Liberian-based non-governmental organization, has

already arranged the positioning of two small aircraft for the relief efforts on a minimum cost basis.

60. Communication continues to be vitally important for ensuring both the security of relief personnel and the quick response of United Nations and other agencies to evolving needs in various parts of the country. The UNSCOL communication centre at Monrovia monitors all missions and the operational deployment of United Nations staff and maintains regular links with non-governmental organization networks throughout the country.

61. The costs of programme support and management for the emergency programme have had to be substantially met from United Nations sources, notably UNDP. Additional requirements to cover operational centres, United Nations Volunteers specialists, emergency management staff, transport and logistics costs and non-governmental organizations support are estimated at $1.6 million.

III. ASSISTANCE BY ORGANIZATIONS OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM

62. In addition to the activities described above, several entities of the United Nations have provided information on assistance rendered to Liberians during the period under review.

United Nations Children's Fund

63. UNICEF has participated in consolidated inter-agency appeals to assist vulnerable groups in the neighboring countries of Cote d'Ivoire, Guinea, and Sierra Leone, which have been negatively affected by events in Liberia. In Liberia itself UNICEF has updated an appeal for $13.8 million and awaits a political solution to enable the expansion of the relief operation to other parts of the country.

64. In accessible areas, UNICEF continues to provide water and sanitation facilities, special education for children under especially difficult circumstances and nutritional surveillance.

United Nations Development Programme

65. Within Liberia, UNDP has provided the United Nations Special Coordinator for Liberia, as well as support staff and logistical support for the operation of UNSCOL and its programmes. This has included the creation of four operational centres, funded by indicative planning figure funds from UNDP, in strategic locations in the country to enhance the humanitarian assistance delivery capacity of both United Nations and non-governmental organization programmes.

66. A main concern of UNDP in supporting such efforts has been to facilitate the transition from relief to rehabilitation and reconstruction, and eventually to normal development activities. Such efforts range from distribution of agricultural seeds and tools to promotion of local non-governmental organizations, both in an immediate relief role and in a

larger role in post-relief activities. While conditions for the initiation of a new UNDP country programme are not appropriate at this time, the interim Government has received approval from the UNDP Governing Council to proceed with the implementation of projects with a potential to contribute to the rehabilitation and reconstruction process on a case-by-case basis. As a result of a joint UNDP/interim Government exercise, a number of projects will be continued or reoriented, including projects for assistance to the Ministry of Planning and Economic Affairs and to the Ministry of Budget, assistance to the national AIDS programme, and projects related to the promotion of private sector development.

67. A rehabilitation and reconstruction planning project is being developed to carry out a comprehensive assessment of sectoral needs and to formulate policy and programme options for the new Government which is to be formed after elections are held. UNDP is also providing technical assistance to the Elections Commission itself.

68. Lastly, UNDP is assisting with plans for the development of a community based area assistance scheme to facilitate the reintegration of displaced persons, returning refugees and demobilized combatants into their home areas.

69. With regard to the assessment of needs and the round-table conference of donors mentioned in General Assembly resolution 46/147 (see para. 3 above), UNDP considers that the outcome of the above-mentioned activities will provide the new Government with sufficient data and policy options to facilitate formulation of a rehabilitation and reconstruction strategy for Liberia for eventual presentation to a donors' conference. UNDP will also stand ready to assist the Government in organizing the round-table conference.

World Food Programme

70. Since the inception of the civil strife emergency in December 1989, WFP assistance has been channelled through a series of six country-specific and three regional emergency operations, as well as the current regional protracted refugee and displaced person project, for which a total of 337,424 tons of basic food have so far been allocated, with deliveries amounting to approximately 220,000 tons. In Liberia alone, some 130,000 metric tons of food aid have been delivered since November 1990, of which 105,000 tons have been distributed. WFP has further assumed responsibility for coordinating the mobilization and delivery of most food consignments from donor sources.

71. In April 1992 the first lot of 500 metric tons of rice was sold under an experimental pilot monetization scheme which intends to wean the population from total emergency food aid dependency and help revitalize the commercial market. In May 1992, the governing body of WFP, the Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes, approved an extension of food aid deliveries under a protracted refugee operation with a total value of $170 million, covering the year 1993.

United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat)

72. Habitat is actively consulting with the interim Government of Liberia concerning the provision of Habitat technical assistance focusing on the following:

(a) Evaluation of the current housing situation;

(b) Formulation of temporary settlement strategies for displaced persons;

(c) Formulation of national strategies for permanent shelter and settlement development.

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

73. FAO re-established its representation in Liberia and through it is assisting in coordinating relief activities and other support for the country, particularly in the agricultural sector.

74. Since January 1992, FAO has been fielding a number of missions in Liberia to prepare projects for implementation in line with the Secretary-General's consolidated appeal for emergency humanitarian assistance and rehabilitation of the country.

75. Under the same appeal, FAO has been making efforts to mobilize resources and donor support for the provision of agricultural inputs such as farm tools, seeds, fishing equipment, and agricultural chemicals essential to reactivate the agricultural sector.

76. The Global Information and Early Warning System on Food and Agriculture continues its intensified monitoring of the food supply situation in Liberia. The monthly FAO report, Foodcrops and Shortages and the Special Africa Report, provide assessments of agricultural conditions, food aid requirements and the progress of emergency operations being undertaken to assist the large number of displaced persons and other needy Liberians. Those reports further highlight the problem of critical shortages of agricultural inputs.

World Health Organization

77. WHO re-established its office in Monrovia early last year in conformity with the other agencies and has appealed for over $13 million for emergency assistance to Liberia. Unfortunately, the response to that appeal was negative and WHO used its regular budget funds to provide humanitarian assistance to the affected population in Monrovia and the interior within available funds. WHO appealed again to the donor community for funds totalling $5.2 million for 1992, so as to permit it to continue its humanitarian role throughout the year in the health sector.

IV. ASSISTANCE BY MEMBER STATES AND OTHER DONORS

78. By communications dated 6 May 1992, the Secretary-General requested Member States and other donors to provide information on the nature and extent of emergency assistance rendered to Liberia in compliance with General Assembly resolution 46/147. The responses received, including information on assistance to Liberian refugees in neighbouring countries, are summarized below.

Canada

79. In fiscal year 1989/90, the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) provided a total of Can $560,000 of non-food aid to UNHCR and ICRC to assist refugees in Côte d'Ivoire and Guinea. The following year, this amount rose to Can $6,655,000, and was directed towards United Nations agencies, including UNHCR, UNICEF, the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Coordinator (UNDRO) and WFP, ICRC and various non-governmental organizations. In fiscal year 1991/92, CIDA contributed non-food aid valued at Can $3,310,000 for Liberians, through United Nations agencies (UNHCR, UNICEF, UNV and UNDP), ICRC, and the Adventist Development Relief Agency (ADRA). During the current fiscal year, CIDA has contributed another Can $90,000 to ADRA for work it is doing with displaced Liberians in Sierra Leone.

80. As for food aid for Liberians, the amounts provided by CIDA over the past two fiscal years were Can $4,100,000 in 1990/91 and Can $1,979,000 in 1991/92.

Denmark

81. Danish emergency assistance to Liberia in 1991 amounted to DKr 17 million, of which 14 million was channelled through UNHCR and UNICEF and 3 million through Danish non-governmental organizations.

Germany

82. In 1992 the Foreign Office has projected DM 14,900 for rice seed for displaced persons in Liberia.

83. Owing to the civil war in Liberia bilateral projects have been discontinued, except for the project on consultancy in the field of drinking water.

84. In 1991 the German Government made the following special contributions to multilateral organizations for humanitarian assistance to Liberia: UNHCR, DM 2 million; ICRC, DM 500,000.

85. In addition, DM 315,000 have been provided through the German non-governmental organization Caritas Germany.

Japan

86. In March 1992, Japan contributed $800,000 in emergency aid to UNICEF to aid mothers and children and improve health and sanitation.

87. The aid disbursed in 1991 was as follows:

March 1991: ¥ 168 million to the UNHCR special programme to support Liberian refugees

July 1991: ¥ 100 million in food aid, through WFP

July 1991: ¥ 150 million in food aid, through WFP

August 1991: SwF 300,000 to the ICRC programme to support Liberians in need.

Norway

88. Norway contributed NKr 900,000 (approximately US$ 150,000) to ICRC for emergency relief for Liberia and NKr 900,000 (approximately US$ 150,000) to the same organization, earmarked for Liberian refugees in Guinea and Côte d'Ivoire.

Saudi Arabia

89. Saudi Arabia has offered aid and developmental loans to Liberia in the amount of 72,014,800 Saudi Arabian riyals appropriated in the following manner:

(a) Non-redeemable loans in the amount of SR11,414,800 offered for humanitarian purposes the last of which was nutritional aid in the amount of SR1 500,000 offered in the year A.H. 1412 (A.D. 1991/92), being currently distributed to the Liberian refugees that are in Guinea because of the war;

(b) Loan from the Saudi Fund for Development in the amount of SR1 70,600,000 to finance the following projects, both of which have been completed: project concerning the road to the bridge Tomban Boni Haliz (SR1 31,800,000) and project for the enlargement of Yorshid electric generating station (SR1 38,800,000).

Sweden

90. During the fiscal year 1990/91 personnel corresponding to an amount of Skr 15.3 million was provided from SWEDRELIEF to the UNICEF hospital in Monrovia. In addition to this, about SKr 1.7 million was allocated for assistance to Liberia.

91. As to disaster relief for the fiscal year 1991/92, around SKr 5.2 million was transferred. Additionally, SKr 4 million has been given to the UNICEF programme for refugees. Disaster relief provided to Liberia has focused on returning refugees from neighbouring countries and on other vulnerable groups.

92. Multilaterally, significant support has been given to regional appeals of United Nations bodies and other international organizations, mainly ICRC. For example, in June 1992 the Government appropriated SKr 80 million to ICRC for food and medical relief to African countries in acute need, and SKr 70 million to UNHCR for its refugee programme in Africa.

93. Approximately SKr 735,000 has been given to promote the development of democracy through Caritas for the rehabilitation of a radio station in Monrovia.

94. In addition, the following amounts were paid to Liberian refugees in surrounding countries during the fiscal year 1990/91: via the Swedish Red Cross SKr 3 million, through UNICEF 8 million, through the non-governmental organization Diakonia 2 million, and through UNHCR 3 million, that is, in total SKr 16 million.

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REPORT OF THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES, QUESTIONS RELATING TO REFUGEES, RETURNEES AND DISPLACED PERSONS AND HUMANITARIAN QUESTIONS: QUESTIONS RELATING TO REFUGEES, RETURNEES AND DISPLACED PERSONS

Assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa

Report of the Secretary-General

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. By its resolution 46/108 of 16 December 1991, the General Assembly, inter alia,

(a) Appealed to Member States, international organizations and non-governmental organizations to provide adequate material, financial and technical assistance for relief and rehabilitation programmes for the large number of refugees, voluntary returnees and displaced persons and victims of natural disasters;

(b) Called upon the Secretary-General and the High Commissioner to continue their efforts to mobilize humanitarian assistance for the relief, repatriation, rehabilitation and resettlement of refugees, returnees and displaced persons;

(c) Requested the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to mobilize adequate financial and material assistance for the full implementation of ongoing projects in rural and urban areas affected by the presence of refugees, returnees and displaced persons;

(d) Requested the High Commissioner to continue her efforts with the appropriate United Nations agencies and intergovernmental, governmental and non-governmental organizations in order to consolidate and increase essential services to refugees, returnees and displaced persons;

(e) Requested the Secretary-General to study and assess the environmental and socio-economic impact of the prolonged presence of refugees in the host countries with a view to rehabilitating those areas.

2. The General Assembly also requested the Secretary-General to submit a comprehensive and consolidated report on the implementation of the resolution to the Assembly at its forty-seventh session. The present report is based on information supplied by member States and entities of the United Nations system concerning actions taken in compliance with resolution 46/108.

II. ACTION TAKEN BY THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM

A. United Nations Children's Fund

3. The activities of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) related to the special needs of refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa consist of collaborative programmes with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the World Food Programme (WFP), the World Health Organization (WHO) and non-governmental organizations. In countries such as Kenya, Sudan, Ethiopia, Djibouti, Somalia, Mozambique, Angola, Liberia and Rwanda. UNICEF has provided relief and shelter materials, supplementary food, essential drugs and educational resources, seeds, tools and specific projects to improve or provide water resources and sanitation facilities.

B. United Nations Development Programme

Angola

4. Following the May 1991 Peace Accords, efforts have been made to address the problems of approximately 900,000 internally displaced persons, perhaps 300,000 returnees and a tremendous number of other needy Angolan nationals through phase II of the United Nations Special Relief Programme for Angola. In this context, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) has continued to support the work of the United Nations Special Coordinator and the operations of the United Nations Emergency Coordination Unit through major staffing, administrative and financial assistance (including over $4.3 million in UNDP/IPF funds). It is also directly involved in assistance for the demobilization of soldiers of both the Government and Uniao Nacional para a Independencia Total de Angola (UNITA) through its vocational training project, with the creation of 50 training centres throughout the country.

Djibouti

5. The UNDP office in Djibouti has been called upon to provide an increasingly high level of its staff and other resources in the past year to support the functions of the Resident Coordinator. This reflects the changing context of the conflicts both within and immediately around the country, the significant refugee population, and the need for coordination of United Nations responses such as the appeals for the Horn of Africa.

6. Regarding longer term refugees, UNDP, in collaboration with the Government is implementing projects of the Second International Conference on Assistance to Refugees in Africa (ICARA II) for both refugees and local residents including diagnosis and treatment of tuberculosis in the Dikhil area, assistance to the handicapped in Djiboutiville and the establishment of a youth center in Balbala.

Ethiopia

7. Drought, ethnic tension and insecurity, both in Ethiopia and Somalia, have created massive numbers of refugees, returnees and drought-affected and internally displaced people in Ethiopia. In response, UNDP, together with other United Nations agencies and non-governmental organizations is participating in cross-mandate programmes to assist the affected populations without distinction as to their status as refugees, returnees, internally displaced persons or needy local residents.

8. Part of this approach involves setting up small development projects in selected communities in order to attract uprooted persons to return to them. UNDP involvement in such efforts includes funding for an irrigation and extension support project in Jijiga for the rehabilitation and hand-over of the state farm in Gode to the farmers and the rehabilitation of irrigation schemes in Kelafo. The latter two projects also seek to reduce the area's dependency on expensively transported relief grain.

9. Regarding the problem of reintegrating approximately 350,000 soldiers from the former army, UNDP has provided funding for a mission, which proposed an extensive programme of aid totalling $67 million and which has now been agreed to by both the Government and the donors. The programme is being implemented by the Government and financed by WFP and bilateral donors. Finally, UNDP directly supports the operations of the United Nations Emergency Prevention and Preparedness Group.

Kenya

10. Kenya is facing the combined effects of a major drought, internal displacements due to ethnic strife in the western part of the country and a large-scale influx of refugees from Somalia (as well as smaller numbers from Sudan and Ethiopia). There are now an estimated 400,000 to 500,000 refugees in Kenya.

11. UNDP provides the primary personnel and administrative and financial support required by the Office of the Resident Coordinator to respond to these interrelated problems. UNDP has also approved $50,000 in Special Programme resources to place a team of United Nations volunteers at the district level to assist in the coordination of relief activities, and $50,000 to help the Government in meeting the emergency needs of the 30,000 most affected victims of the ethnic strife.

12. The complex nature of the emergency, whereby desertification problems are being exacerbated by drought and refugees, has rendered even more important the cross-border/preventive zone concept for Kenya as described in the revised Special Emergency Programme for the Horn of Africa (SEPHA) appeal of July 1992. The Government of Kenya has expressed grave concern at the developing situation, particularly with regard to the already fragile carrying capacity of the northern part of the country.

13. In early October, the United Nations Disaster Management Team in Kenya met with counterparts from Ethiopia, Somalia and Sudan. At the meeting a system of regular consultations on the situation in the four countries was agreed to, and the ongoing discussions between the World Bank and UNDP concerning the implementation of rehabilitation and recovery measures in northern Kenya was noted.

Liberia

14. Within Liberia, UNDP has financed the position of the United Nations Special Coordinator, as well as support staff and logistical support for the operation of the Special Coordinator's office and programmes. This has included the creation of four operational centers, funded by IPF funds from UNDP, in strategic locations in the country to enhance the humanitarian assistance delivery capacity of both United Nations and non-governmental organization programmes. A main concern of UNDP in supporting such efforts has been to facilitate the transition from relief to rehabilitation and reconstruction, and eventually to normal development activities. Such efforts

range from distribution of agricultural seeds and tools to promotion of local non-governmental organizations, playing both an immediate relief role as well as a larger role in post-relief activities.

15. UNDP is also assisting with plans for the development of a community-based area assistance scheme to facilitate the reintegration of displaced persons, returning refugees and demobilized combatants into their home areas. These plans would draw heavily on similar UNDP experiences in other countries, such as with the Programa de Desarollo para Desplazados, Refugiados y Repatriados en Centro América (PRODERE) in Central America.

Malawi

16. A joint UNDP/UNHCR programming mission in 1991 identified priority needs in refugee-impacted parts of Malawi, including small holder agricultural productivity, social and management development, health, water, road, forestry, education and income generating activities. Projects and programmes to address these needs have now been included in the UNDP Fifth Cycle Country Programme for Malawi and in the national development plan of the Government of Malawi. These initiatives offer an important model for improving the efficiency of programming for both refugees and local residents. However, attention is now needed to ensure that the extrabudgetary funds required for implementation are forthcoming.

17. In addition, UNDP continues to provide financial and technical support for refugee-related projects. A water project aimed at improving water quality and quantity by protecting 100 springs in a district most affected by refugees is being funded by UNDP from a United States contribution to the ICARA II Trust Fund. A health project, which is training 600 men and women health surveillance assistants to work in eight refugee-impacted districts of Malawi is being implemented with funding from ICARA II and the Government of Greece.

Mozambique

18. The combination of war and drought continues to plague Mozambique and to call for massive relief efforts, including on behalf of the over 3.5 million displaced persons and millions of persons who must depend on international food aid. Coordination of United Nations humanitarian assistance efforts is carried out through the United Nations Special Coordinator for Emergency Relief Operations (UNSCERO). This position is held by the UNDP Resident Representative, and major support for these coordination functions is provided by UNDP, including through the operation of the UNSCERO/UNDP Emergency Unit.

National liberation movements

19. Under the National liberation movement/IPF funds, a total of 16 projects are being implemented. The main fields of assistance are education and training (which account for roughly three quarters of the funding to date), health services, mechanical repair services and food production. The African

National Congress is the beneficiary of six projects and the Pan Africanist Congress of five, while three projects cover both. Namibians received humanitarian assistance through two projects, which have now been completed. A total of $17 million has now been committed for these projects, leaving $1.2 million available for additional programming.

Refugee education

20. Following the World Conference on Education for All, held at Jomtien, Thailand, in 1990, UNDP has been an active participant in the United Nations/non-governmental organization Working Group organized by UNHCR to address the education needs of refugees. As the result of the dialogue in the Working Group and in the context of human development strategy, UNDP and UNHCR, in collaboration with the national Governments, launched joint needs assessment missions to Malawi, Mozambique and Zimbabwe. The recommendations of the joint assessment mission have been integrated in the UNDP Fifth Country Programme for Malawi. These missions were co-financed from UNDP Special Programme Resources funds.

Rwandese refugees

21. Following the 1990 Dar-es-Salaam declaration, UNDP has collaborated with UNHCR, the Governments of countries hosting Rwandese refugees and the Government of Rwanda in preparation for the possible return of some refugees to Rwanda and the reintegration of the others into their host country. Demographic profiles of the refugees and assessments of their socio-economic status were carried out for Rwandese refugees in Burundi, the United Republic of Tanzania, Uganda and Zaire. Relevant sectoral programmes and projects that are in line with the country development plans have been identified and formulated for Rwanda, as well as the countries of asylum. As envisioned at the Dar-es-Salaam Conference, the resulting plan of action is to be presented to a donors conference organized by UNHCR, OAU and those Governments who participated in the Dar-es-Salaam conference.

Somalia

22. Insecurity in the capital and throughout most of the country forced UNDP to suspend its development activities in 1992. UNDP has continued to operate the Emergency Unit in support of the work of the United Nations Coordinator for Humanitarian Assistance for Somalia and is exploring ways that it may help provide limited rehabilitation assistance in parts of the country that are accessible. In this context it is providing air transportation and telecommunications service to the United Nations and non-governmental organization staff working in Somalia, and is cooperating with the European Economic Community (EEC), USAID and UNICEF in the rehabilitation of the water supply system of Mogadishu.

Swaziland

23. UNDP is funding the ongoing costs of the secondary school previously established with joint UNDP/EEC funding in the Ndzevane refugee settlement. This school, for both Mozambican refugee and Swazi national students, is now also adding a pre-vocational programme to its normal academic curriculum.

United Republic of Tanzania

24. An ICARA II project for road rehabilitation and reconstruction in northwest Tanzania is now nearing completion, while another project in the health sector, which will include rehabilitating and equipping health facilities in refugee-impacted areas, is being finalized. An ICARA II project for assistance to cooperatives is being developed.

Zambia

25. Regarding ICARA II activities, a previous aquaculture project is now being followed up by a project providing aquaculture inputs extension services inputs to refugees and local residents in the Northwestern Province, where an extension project for marketing of honey and beeswax is also being implemented. Refugees from Mozambique and local residents in the Eastern Province are benefiting from a project to train community health workers and traditional birth attendants, as well as a project for cattle disease control.

C. World Food Programme

Djibouti

26. WFP continues to give high priority to providing assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa. In Djibouti, WFP is feeding 20,000 refugees in refugee camps.

Ethiopia

27. WFP is assisting a case-load of some 500,000 refugees and an average of 311,000 voluntary returnees in the face of severe security constraints impeding access to the target population.

Kenya

28. WFP has geared up to mobilize resources for 300,000 refugees from Ethiopia, Sudan and Somalia.

Malawi

29. WFP is involved in the resourcing of basic and supplementary food for 960,000 Mozambican refugees. Food commodities are delivered at two centres, namely Blantyre and Lilongwe, whence the Government and UNHCR arrange to deliver and distribute.

D. United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat)

30. Habitat has initiated a number of projects in various countries under the umbrella of their national shelter strategy, from which returnees and displaced persons are expected to benefit. A case in point is Namibia, where a number of pilot projects have been initiated within the framework of the national shelter strategy with the objective of providing support to low income groups as well as returnees.

31. Habitat, in consultation with the bureau of the AFRICA Fund Committee, has also elaborated the preparatory phase of a project proposal in support of returning South African refugees. Habitat is actively consulting with the liberation movements and the bureau of the AFRICA Fund Committee on the modalities and resource mobilization for this project.

E. Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

32. Over the past year, refugee crises in Africa have continued unabated. While the process of democratization has opened up increasing possibilities for solutions, notably through voluntary repatriation, the continuation or escalation of a number of conflicts has caused ongoing or new refugee flows. This has rendered necessary the launching of new emergency assistance programmes, as well as the strengthening of UNHCR's field presence to respond more effectively to complex refugee situations.

33. Responding to emergencies in Africa has proved to be particularly challenging to humanitarian agencies. In the light of recent experience, the High Commissioner has made emergency response one of her main priorities. This has involved the establishment of standby capacity in the areas of emergency staffing and relief supplies, and enhanced capability in needs assessment and emergency programme implementation.

34. The root causes of population movements and refugee flows in Africa have, as in the past, been both natural and man-made, involving varying combinations of political, economic, climatic and environmental factors. Moreover, the great majority of refugees in Africa have found asylum in countries facing major economic problems and often in the most remote and least developed areas. The impact of successive emergencies affecting millions of drought victims, refugees, returnees and internally displaced persons in the Horn of Africa, Angola, Kenya, Liberia, Mozambique and the Sudan have been particularly severe.

35. More generally, the effect of the drought in southern Africa on water resources, food availability and health is a cause of particular concern. It could, moreover, threaten the region's capacity to carry out some of the landmark reforms vital to longer term development.

36. Despite this somber picture, the recent impetus towards peace and democracy in many parts of Africa has directly or indirectly created opportunities or improved prospects for voluntary repatriation. Thus UNHCR, together with the relevant authorities in countries of asylum and of return is currently preparing for or implementing the repatriation of approximately one million refugees throughout the continent. For a large-scale repatriation to be successful, however, countries of origin must be assisted to reabsorb their nationals. The impending return of large numbers of refugees poses a very specific and urgent development challenge. The lack of adequate funding for repatriation and reintegration programmes is a significant constraint and has had an impact on the number of refugees who can be assisted to return.

37. Insecurity in all its various forms has proved one of the greatest challenges to the delivery of humanitarian assistance in parts of Africa. Over the last year, a number of UNHCR and other relief agency lives have been lost. The delivery of humanitarian assistance has been seriously disrupted or even halted as a result of threats to refugee settlements, refugees or returnees and the staff and property of humanitarian organizations. Attacks on supply routes have likewise jeopardized operations. Even after peace is established, areas of potential return are often littered with mines or unexploded ordnance, posing serious danger to returnees. UNHCR has called on all parties to cooperate in creating a safe and secure environment for humanitarian work.

West Africa

38. The refugee situation in West Africa has been marked by the continuing massive presence of Liberian refugees in neighbouring countries, as well as by the more recent exodus from Sierra Leone into Guinea and Liberia.

39. Attempts to find a peaceful and lasting solution to the Liberian crisis have not yet reached fruition. Nevertheless, recent positive developments in the country have resulted in the reversal of movements between Liberia and countries of asylum and improved prospects for eventual larger scale return. Despite progress made in the peace process, however, the present political and security situation in Liberia still precludes organized voluntary repatriation movements for the 655,000 Liberian refugees outside their country. Nevertheless, some 30,000 spontaneous returns have occurred since April 1991, mainly to Monrovia, plus an indeterminate number to the interior. The rehabilitation of infrastructure, which requires significant international support, the deployment of the Economic Community of West African States Cease-fire Monitoring Group (ECOMOG) forces in National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPFL) territory, the disarmament and encampment of NPFL combatants, will, among other factors, determine the eventual rate of return of Liberian nationals.

40. In the meantime, UNHCR has continued to provide humanitarian assistance to West African countries hosting Liberian refugees. As efforts are made to create conditions conducive to organized voluntary return, the Office will continue with necessary preparations, notably the release of funds for repair

of infrastructure, including roads, transit shelters and water facilities. It will also continue its efforts to sensitize the major parties concerning the various requirements for a mass repatriation in safety and dignity, while stepping up assistance to spontaneous repatriants and related monitoring activities.

41. Tragically, the situation in the West African region has again been complicated by a new conflict in Sierra Leone, which has led to the internal displacement of hundreds of thousands of Sierra Leoneans and caused 175,000 to seek asylum in Guinea and 21,000 in Liberia. Further concerted efforts and political will are undoubtedly required to resolve the crises of the troubled West African region.

Horn of Africa

42. The situation in the Horn of Africa, where refugee and returnee emergencies coexist with large-scale internal displacement, widespread insecurity and famine, continues to pose one of the greatest challenges to UNHCR and other humanitarian organizations active on the African continent. In addition to the sheer scale of humanitarian needs, security remains a major factor affecting delivery of humanitarian assistance in the region.

43. Throughout much of 1991, the security situation in Ethiopia was a major obstacle impeding the effective delivery of assistance to refugees. Since January 1992, however, there has been a significant improvement in the situation and, consequently, in deliveries of food to the 430,000 Somali refugees in the east.

44. The deterioration of the security situation in Somalia, on the other hand, has caused continuing influxes of new arrivals. They have been assisted within the context of the new cross-mandate approach, in which agencies are working together to provide assistance on a non-discriminatory basis to refugees, returnees, displaced persons and affected local populations.

45. Since the events in Somalia in January 1991, the majority of the Issak Somali refugees in Ethiopia have expressed their wish to repatriate to north-west Somalia, subject to availability of food, rehabilitation of damaged basic infrastructure and peaceful conditions. Indeed, due to poor security in eastern Ethiopia, an estimated 100,000 have spontaneously returned home. It is believed that if land mines were to be cleared and the security situation to improve in north-west Somalia, large-scale repatriation would be a feasible, durable solution.

46. UNHCR re-established a permanent presence in Hargeisa, Somalia, in October 1991, but in view of the security and political situation in north-west Somalia, the Office, other United Nations agencies and a number of non-governmental organizations were compelled to recall their international staff in April 1992. Prepositioning of returnee assistance packages has continued despite the uncertainties surrounding implementation of the returnee programme, which is designed to benefit some 300,000 potential returnees in

1992. A joint mission involving UNHCR, UNDP and UNICEF visited north-west Somalia in June 1992 to assess the possibility of restarting the returnee programme, and the timing of such an initiative is under consideration. In this context, the re-establishment of an international presence and the setting up of field offices is currently being reviewed.

47. Meanwhile, UNHCR and non-governmental organizations operating in north-west Somalia continue their efforts, albeit on a limited scale and under difficult circumstances, to rehabilitate essential facilities such as water systems, health facilities, basic infrastructure and key access roads. UNHCR also continues to support mine-clearance operations.

48. The Office has not re-established its presence in southern Somalia since the second evacuation of staff, which occurred in May 1992. It is believed that no Ethiopian refugees assisted by UNHCR remain in Mogadishu.

49. In making every possible effort to carry out its mandate in Somalia, UNHCR has maintained a cooperative working relationship with the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Special Humanitarian Assistance Programme for Somalia.

50. The situation in Somalia has also been a major factor in precipitating the mass return of Ethiopian refugees to their country of origin. To date, some 480,000 returnees have been registered. Efforts to disperse them to their places of origin have continued despite the security constraints faced by UNHCR. The original package consisting of payment of a reintegration cash grant to individual families is being replaced for reasons of cost and overall effectiveness by the introduction of quick impact projects aimed at benefiting both returnees and local communities with improved services and productive capacity.

51. In yet another manifestation of the widespread insecurity in the region, some 200,000 to 250,000 Sudanese refugees in western Ethiopia spilled back into the Sudan from the Gambela region of Ethiopia in May 1991. Emergency assistance was provided through Operation Lifeline Sudan, to which UNHCR provided financial and staffing support. Meanwhile, UNHCR, in collaboration with other United Nations agencies and non-governmental organizations, has been transforming Dimma camp in western Ethiopia into a viable settlement for the remaining 4,300 Sudanese refugees.

52. On a more positive note, the repatriation of the residual case-load of 2,700 Ugandan refugees from the Juba area in southern Sudan was successfully completed in February 1992 in coordination with WFP. In addition, the voluntary repatriation of 3,011 Chadians was completed in May. Some 12,000 of the 20,000 Chadian refugees in the Sudan have registered for this programme, establishing a positive trend in favour of repatriation. It is hoped that the remainder will return to their country of origin after the harvest in late 1992.

53. With respect to Eritrea, discussions were held between UNHCR, the Provisional Government of Eritrea (PGE) and the Sudanese Government regarding the repatriation and reintegration of an estimated 250,000 Eritrean refugees from the Sudan. Contacts were also being pursued with a number of United Nations agencies to establish an integrated programme for the rehabilitation of likely returnee areas. The PGE views such an overall programme as a precondition to large-scale organized repatriation. Given the time needed to establish a programme of this nature, substantial organized repatriation is not likely to commence before the end of 1992. In the meantime, UNHCR has continued to provide for care and maintenance of Eritrean refugees in the Sudan.

54. Due to its position at the cross-roads of the Horn of Africa, Djibouti has been particularly affected by the political changes and subsequent instability in neighbouring countries during 1991. In addition to a heavy refugee burden, the country was also contending with a severe drought and internal disturbances in its northern regions. Within the context of UNHCR's annual programme and SEPHA, assistance has been provided in the form of food aid, health and water services and the strengthening of logistics to enable cost-effective delivery of emergency supplies to Ethiopia. Since April 1992, the Djibouti authorities have begun transferring some of the refugees in the capital to the refugee camps where UNHCR assistance is provided. Efforts are being made to strengthen the capacity of the national implementing agency, Office nationale d'assistance aux réfugiés et sinistrés (ONARS), through the secondment of a number of international non-governmental organization staff.

55. In recent months, Kenya has been severely affected by events in the Horn of Africa. Continuing widespread strife in Somalia and the inter-clan conflict in southern Ethiopia, coupled with severe drought and crop failure in both countries, has led to an influx of Somali and Ethiopian refugees. Over 300,000 persons had found asylum in Kenya by June 1992. In addition, drought in the borderlands has brought large numbers of nomads into the refugee camps.

56. The situation in Kenya has been further aggravated by the arrival of an estimated 20,000 Sudanese refugees fleeing civil war in southern Sudan. Problems of security, accessibility and land availability have been important constraints in providing assistance to the refugees, many of whom arrive in very poor condition. Drought has posed a major problem in Kenya, as the country is unable to cover its own food needs, let alone those of refugees. UNHCR has been providing emergency assistance in conjunction with non-governmental organizations, while WFP has been supplying basic food. Considering the lead time required to import the large quantities of food needed, a continuing flow of new arrivals would pose serious logistical problems for UNHCR and WFP. In this perspective, UNHCR has been attempting to promote a regional strategy to ensure that sufficient food is made available in the countries of origin and is maintaining close contact with WFP and other agencies to strengthen cross-border and cross-mandate operations. Linking the cross-mandate approach and cross-border operations, with the objective of filling gaps in assistance will, it is hoped, stabilize populations and prevent displacement in the border areas of the Horn of Africa.

Central Africa

57. In central Africa, the Peace Accords signed between the Government of Angola and the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) have paved the way for Africa's largest voluntary repatriation - that of some 300,000 Angolan refugees, mainly from Zaire and Zambia. Preparations are under way in the host countries and in Angola itself for safe return to commence during the second half of 1992. Meanwhile, as a result of events in Zaire, spontaneous repatriations have been occurring since November 1991, and arrangements have been made to provide UNHCR assistance to those concerned. The aftermath of the civil war in Angola has left considerable quantities of land-mines and unexploded ordnance, which have to be cleared prior to any large-scale, organized repatriation. The Government of Angola and UNITA have assured UNHCR that they will speed up the ongoing mine-clearance activities, particularly in areas of return, as well as on main and access roads.

58. With respect to Rwandese refugees, the Dar-es-Salaam Declaration of 19 February 1992 entrusted to OAU and UNHCR the establishment of a Plan of Action for durable solutions to this thirty-year-old problem. It is estimated that there are approximately 500,000 Rwandese refugees mainly residing in five neighbouring countries. Technical studies have been carried out in Rwanda for the reintegration of returnees and, in the United Republic of Tanzania and Uganda for the integration of those who do not wish to repatriate. UNDP is also preparing a similar mission to Burundi. However, the Plan of Action can only be implemented when the necessary conditions for return in safety and dignity have been met in Rwanda. It is hoped that circumstances will permit the voluntary repatriation phase of the Plan of Action to begin during the second half of 1992. In this respect, the recently concluded cease-fire agreement between the Government of Rwanda and the Rwanda Patriotic Front (RPF) augurs well for the future.

59. Likewise, improved prospects for the voluntary repatriation of Burundi refugees from Tanzania in the foreseeable future have led UNHCR to embark on preparations for a return movement and subsequent reintegration in Burundi.

Southern Africa

60. Southern Africa has been affected this year by one of the worst droughts in living memory. This crisis afflicts all the countries in the region and particularly those people already most affected by conflict and poverty. The drought has, moreover, placed heavy additional pressure on normal government resources. In several asylum countries, the continued presence of large refugee populations is leading to antagonism and compassion fatigue among nationals. The impact on the environment is also of grave concern. As a result of the drought, major population movements are expected from Mozambique into neighbouring countries, especially Malawi (where an increased rate of influx has already taken the refugee population over the 1 million mark), Zambia and Zimbabwe. In addition, there have been movements of spontaneously settled refugees into camps.

61. UNHCR continues to monitor developments in Mozambique. It recently undertook a joint assessment mission to the region with the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of the Government of Norway, the Norwegian Refugee Council and UNDP to assess prospects for voluntary repatriation and the potential requirements for such an operation. In this context, an integrated approach has been developed by UNHCR and UNDP in close consultation with the Government of Mozambique, non-governmental organizations and countries of asylum. The approach has been strongly supported, inter alia, by the Nordic countries at a meeting held on 22 June in Oslo. Despite a modest rate of voluntary repatriation, however, the security situation, drought and economic factors in Mozambique are such that large-scale repatriation for the estimated 1.3 million Mozambican refugees does not appear to be feasible in the immediate future.

62. The High Commissioner has stressed that it will become particularly difficult for UNHCR to attend to the particular needs of refugees and returnees in southern Africa unless the overall needs of the affected populations are adequately addressed. UNHCR has been coordinating its response to the serious food deficits for refugees with WFP and in close consultation with the Department of Humanitarian Affairs. To avert a major loss of life, however, there must be increased efforts on the part of the international community to deal with this unprecedented crisis.

63. In recent months, a number of difficulties and disappointments have been encountered with the voluntary repatriation of South African refugees. By early July 1992, 4,875 refugees and exiles had returned home under the UNHCR-funded operation launched in September last year. In South Africa itself, a cash grant covering a period of six months is being provided to some 10,000 returnees, including those who arrived before the commencement of the UNHCR-sponsored programme. In addition, individual donors are being mobilized for the funding of small-scale income-generating and training projects designed to increase returnee self-sufficiency.

64. Although an additional 3,000 persons are registered for return, not all are expected to do so before September 1992, when the programme expires. Reluctance to repatriate is due to a number of factors, including political and economic conditions in the country of origin, the arrest and detention of several returnees and instances of harassment and intimidation of returnees in certain parts of the country. UNHCR hopes that these obstacles can be overcome so that all refugees and exiles can return home in conditions of safety and dignity to participate as full citizens in their country.

Conclusion

65. Africa is a priority area for UNHCR and the budget allocation it has devoted to the continent has grown steadily every year, although it has been overstretched by large increases in the number of refugees. In 1992, UNHCR will devote 40 per cent of its total budgetary resources to programmes in Africa, which hosts some 30 per cent of the world's refugees. Nevertheless, the financial requirements necessary to achieve durable solutions to Africa's

refugee problems exceed the capacity of UNHCR alone and call for a concerted approach by the United Nations system and the international community.

66. In its resolution 46/108, the General Assembly raised the important issue of the environmental and socio-economic impact of the prolonged presence of refugees in host countries. UNHCR has prepared a conference room paper on this subject for its Executive Committee meeting in October 1992. Among other things, the paper suggests that UNHCR prepare environmental rehabilitation projects in refugee-hosting areas and returnee areas in cooperation with other agencies.

67. It is a matter of great concern, as UNHCR pursues opportunities for voluntary repatriation, that returnees will be going back to countries devastated by war and to areas inhabited by impoverished nationals or internally displaced persons. The capacity of such areas to absorb large numbers of returnees needs to be enhanced by comprehensive programmes for political, economic and social reconstruction. Unless effective measures are taken to ensure the link between relief and sustainable development, social tensions could well result in conflict and new refugee situations. Ensuring the success of voluntary repatriation thus goes beyond the mandate or resources of UNHCR alone and requires also significant development initiatives involving the active collaboration of the development and financing institutions of the United Nations system, of regional development banks and of bilateral aid programmes. Only in such a way can truly humanitarian and durable solutions to refugee problems be achieved.

F. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

68. The FAO Global Information and Early Warning System (GIEWS) continues, inter alia, to monitor the number and requirements of refugees and displaced persons in the context of the overall crop and food supply situation of the countries and the subregions and provide special reports. FAO, jointly with WFP, carried out on-the-spot crop and food supply assessment missions to both Ethiopia and the Sudan during November and December 1991; the 1992 wheat crop in Sudan was assessed by GIEWS in April 1992. Special reports were issued immediately after the completion of the missions. The requirements of the refugees and displaced persons in Djibouti, Ethiopia, Somalia and the Sudan were included in the consolidated inter-agency appeal for the Horn of Africa issued on 1 February 1992. The requirements for Malawi were included in the special report of the FAO/WFP crop and food supply assessment mission, issued on 15 April 1992, and in the consolidated United Nations/Southern African Development Coordination Conference appeal for southern Africa of May 1992.

69. In Angola, a project entitled "Emergency Assistance for Agriculture Rehabilitation", which concluded in April 1991, greatly benefited refugees, returnees or displaced persons, even though it was not specifically oriented to their exclusive assistance. It provided inputs and equipment for the development of basic crops and for the rehabilitation of areas most affected by civil war. Another ongoing project, "Provision of Agricultural Inputs for

Horticulture and Fruit Garden Rehabilitation", is providing complementary assistance. In addition, a project entitled "Agricultural Assistance in Support of the Special Relief Programme for Angola", completed in November 1991, mainly benefited internally displaced persons affected by drought.

70. In Mozambique, there is an ongoing technical cooperation project (TCP) entitled "Agricultural Rehabilitation Support to the Displaced Population in the District of Boane".

71. For returnees in Somalia, FAO is implementing, also through TCP funding, a project on "Emergency Provision of Hand Tools to Returnee Farmers in Rainfed Areas of North-West Somalia".

G. International Fund for Agricultural Development

72. The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) is planning or carrying out projects in Senegal to help repatriates from Mauritania; in Mali, in favour of destitute nomads in the Kydol region, and in Niger for the return and socio-economic reintegration of persons displaced by drought to southern Algeria.

III. ACTION TAKEN BY MEMBER STATES

A. Austria

73. Austria will contribute 9 million Austrian schillings to the consolidated appeal for the Horn of Africa, earmarked for UNHCR projects in Djibouti and Ethiopia. A donation of 6 million Austrian schillings to the American Research Foundation for its work with refugees in Kenya is envisaged. It has also been decided to contribute 5 million Austrian schillings to the UNHCR programme for the repatriation of refugees to South Africa.

74. In 1991, Austria gave 1 million Austrian schillings respectively for the SOS children's village in Somalia, the alleviation of the famine in Sudan and the repatriation of refugees to Western Sahara.

B. Canada

75. Canada provided substantial assistance to refugees, internally displaced persons and returnees in Africa, as well as to victims of natural disasters. This assistance was provided through multilateral, bilateral and non-governmental channels.

76. In addition to contributions towards the core costs of UNHCR, WFP and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), Canada responded to appeals for emergency humanitarian assistance. Canada's food and non-food contributions for the period from 1 April 1991 to 31 March 1992 are summarized below:

Country	Nature	Channel	Amount ($Can)
Africa	General	Red Cross	1 500
Angola	Civil conflict	United Nations/Red Cross/ Non-governmental organization	4 539
Djibouti	Civil unrest	United Nations	200
Ethiopia	Civil unrest/drought	United Nations/Red Cross/ Non-governmental organization	41 293
Horn of Africa	General	United Nations/Red Cross	492
Liberia	Civil war	United Nations/Red Cross/ Non-governmental organization	5 289
Mali	Civil unrest	Non-governmental organization	100
Mozambique	Civil conflict/drought	United Nations/Red Cross/ Non-governmental organization	24 116
Rwanda	Civil unrest	Red Cross	100
Somalia	Civil war/drought	United Nations/Red Cross/ Non-governmental organization	8 650
South Africa	Repatriation	United Nations	1 500
Sudan	Civil war/drought	United Nations/Red Cross/ Non-governmental organization	30 390
Western Sahara	Repatriation	United Nations	500
Zaire	Civil unrest	United Nations	2 383
TOTAL			121 052

C. China

77. In 1991 the Chinese Government provided the following assistance to refugees in Africa:

Botswana	3,000 tons of maize
Burkina Faso	500 tons of maize
Chad	Y 1 million aid
Central African Republic	10 tons of rice
Djibouti	Y 1.25 million aid and 300 tons of maize
Ethiopia	Y 5 million aid
Lesotho	1,000 tons of maize
Mozambique	300 tons of maize
Namibia	Y 700,000 aid
Sudan	Y 3 million aid
Zambia	3,000 tons of maize
Zimbabwe	3,000 tons of maize

D. Germany

78. The Government of Germany is deeply concerned about the continuing refugee problems in many parts of Africa, which constitute both a human tragedy for the people directly concerned and a heavy burden for the countries with a massive presence of refugees and displaced persons. Therefore, those African countries that, despite their own economic and social problems, host large numbers of refugees deserve the gratitude and support of the international community.

79. The Government of Germany has always accorded paramount importance to refugee matters, both in a national and an international context. Thus, Germany has always been one of the largest contributors to the programmes of UNHCR. In addition to its contribution to the general budget of UNHCR, the Government of Germany has made available funds from different budgetary sources for specific refugee projects, many of them in Africa.

80. In 1991, the Government supported refugees in Africa with DM 21.1 million from humanitarian assistance and DM 53.0 million from development funds. In addition, the Government of Germany is contributing DM 2 million to the special programme set up by UNHCR in support of African refugee students. An increase in this contribution is envisaged in the future. Furthermore, a substantial share of German food aid to African countries benefits refugees. It may also be pointed out that the German share of the funds made available by the European Community to assist African refugees amounts to approximately 28 per cent.

81. The Government of Germany wishes to take this opportunity to reiterate its conviction that financial assistance to the groups concerned alone, as high and generous as it may be, will not be able to solve refugee problems around the world. Only a coordinated strategy aiming at the prevention of new refugee flows and the creation of conditions in the countries of origin conducive to the voluntary return of refugees will bring about durable solutions.

E. India

82. One of the concrete steps taken by India was to initiate a resolution, passed by the eighth summit of non-aligned countries in Harare in 1986, for the creation of the Action for Resisting Invasion, Colonialism and Apartheid Fund or Africa Fund. The Government of India pledged to give Rs 50 crores (Rs 500,000,000) to the Africa Fund for assistance to the front-line States and liberation movements. In addition to this contribution, the Government of India presented US$ 5 million to Dr. Nelson Mandela of the ANC in 1990.

83. To supplement the Government of India's contribution and to enable the individuals and organizations to participate in the Africa Fund initiative the AFRICA (Public contribution - India) Fund was set up in 1987. Contributions to this Fund aggregating a little over Rs 2.5 crores (Rs 25,000,000) have been

received so far from a large number of donors, and this amount has already been utilized.

84. India has always given priority to helping liberation movements of South Africa to enable them to meet the needs of refugees and displaced persons. The following projects have been taken up in the last few years under the Indian contribution to the Africa Fund and under the AFRICA (Public contributions - India) Fund.

Project details	Beneficiary	Amount (Indian rupees)
Supply of consumer durables and transport vehicles	ANC	Rs 1.5 crores (Rs 15,000,000)
Supply of transport vehicles	ANC	Rs 54 lakhs (Rs 5,400,000)
Supply of medicines and essential commodities	ANC	Rs 1.4 crores (Rs 14,000,000)
Supply of essential commodities and jeeps	PAC	Rs 50 lakhs (Rs 50,000,000)
Emergency supplies	ANC	5 lakhs (Rs 500,000)

85. These projects were taken up in addition to the cash contribution of US$ 5 million to ANC. The Government of India has also taken up a new project for training of ANC cadres in India to commence in July 1992.

86. As Chairman of the AFRICA Fund, the Government of India also proposed and got approval for cash contributions to the liberation movements in South Africa from the AFRICA Fund. In 1990, the Africa Fund donated US$ 800,000 to ANC and $200,000 to PAC to enable them to meet the requirements of displaced persons of South African origin. In May 1992, the AFRICA Fund decided at the initiative of India to provide US$ 800,000 as assistance to the liberation movements in South Africa in the area of human resources development to enable them to meet the requirements of a large number of returnees.

F. Libyan Arab Jamahiriya

87. The Libyan Arab Jamahiriya provided the following financial assistance for the children of refugees in southern Sudan and neighbouring States in April 1992:

(a) Assistance to the International Committee of the Red Cross in the amount of US$ 250,000;

(b) Assistance to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in the amount of US$ 100,000;

(c) Assistance to the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) in the amount of US$ 150,000.

88. The Libyan Arab Jamahiriya also provided financial assistance in the amount of US$ 10,000 to the victims of starvation in Madagascar and equipped medical convoys to three African countries, namely, Mauritania, Mozambique and Niger, the costs of which totalled US$ 300,000.

G. Liechtenstein

89. The Government of Liechtenstein has so far placed at the disposal of the ICRC 20,000 Swiss francs in order to support the special aid programme for Somalia.

H. Norway

90. The following gives an overview of the extent of assistance the Government of Norway has provided to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa during the period 1 January 1992 to 18 June 1992, including natural disaster relief. This assistance, in both cash and kind, has been channelled through United Nations agencies, the Red Cross, non-governmental organizations and other relief agencies.

	Norwegian kroner	US$ equivalent
Angola	1 500 000	234 400
Ethiopia	41 987 787	6 560 600
Eritrea	20 990 000	3 279 700
Liberia	1 800 000	281 300
Mozambique	29 175 000	4 558 600
Rwanda	355 000	55 500
Somalia	26 691 100	4 140 500
Sudan	23 969 613	3 745 300
Zambia	20 000 000	3 125 000
Zimbabwe	10 192 850	1 592 600

91. In addition to the above, US$ 390,625 has been provided for humanitarian assistance activities in Africa as a part of Norway's contribution to the Central Emergency Revolving Fund (total contribution is US$ 1.6 million).

92. Furthermore, the Government of Norway contributed US$ 6,250,000 to a campaign to raise funds among Norwegians for emergency assistance to drought and hunger-stricken people in Africa. Of this contribution US$ 1.88 million was allocated to the Horn of Africa, and US$ 4.38 million to the southern African countries, of which Mozambique received US$ 2.03 million and Zimbabwe US$ 1.56 million.

I. Sweden

93. For the fiscal year 1991/92, approximately SKr 322 million was allocated for refugees, returnees and displaced persons in southern Africa, of which approximately SKr 96 million was emergency assistance to Mozambique and SKr 66 million was emergency assistance to Angola.

94. Approximately SKr 160 million was given to refugees, displaced persons and returnees in other southern African countries. This assistance has been channelled through the Governments concerned, the African National Congress, non-governmental organizations (for example churches and scholarship programmes) and the United Nations system, including its Trust Fund for South Africa and its Educational and Training Programme for South Africa.

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Assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa

Report of the Secretary-General

Corrigendum

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INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION FOR THE ERADICATION OF POVERTY IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

Note by the Secretary-General

The General Assembly, by its resolution 46/141 of 17 December 1991, requested the Secretary-General to report to it at its forty-seventh session on the progress made in coordinating actions, in cooperation with governmental and non-governmental organizations and other multilateral bodies, to formulate improved and enhanced action-oriented technical cooperation programmes for the eradication of poverty in developing countries, within the framework of the United Nations system, in accordance with the polices, priorities and strategies of those countries.

Following the adoption of that resolution, the Economic and Social Council decided, at its organizational session for 1992, to consider this question at its substantive session of 1992, in the coordination segment, on the basis of a report submitted by the Secretary-General on policies and activities relating to assistance in the eradicatior of poverty and support to vulnerable groups, including assistance during the implementation of structural adjustment programmes (E/1992/47). Since that report provides information on the progress made in coordinating policies and activities with a view to improving and enhancing technical cooperation programmes for the eradication of poverty in developing countries within the United Nations system, it is submitted to the General Assembly for consideration.

Attention is also drawn to annex IV to the report of the Economic and Social Council 1/ containing the concluding statement of the President of the Council on the coordination segment, which contains recommendations addressed to the Secretary-General and the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system for enhancing the coordination and coherence of the assistance programmes and activities of the system relating to the eradication of poverty.

Notes

1/ A/47/3; the final text will be issued as Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 3 (A/47/3/Rev.1).

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INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE FOR THE ECONOMIC REHABILITATION OF ANGOLA

Report of the Secretary-General

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. By its resolution 46/142 of 17 December 1991 on international assistance for the economic rehabilitation of Angola, the General Assembly, inter alia:

(a) Welcomed the signing of the Peace Accords for Angola, which had created political conditions for the economic and social rehabilitation of Angola;

(b) Expressed its appreciation to the international community for the emergency humanitarian assistance rendered to Angola through the Special Relief Programme for Angola, and appealed for generous contributions for the continuation of the Programme in 1992;

(c) Reiterated its appeal to the international community to continue to render material, technical and financial assistance necessary for the economic rehabilitation of Angola;

(d) Requested the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the international community, to continue to mobilize organizations and organs of the United Nations system in order to increase the level of economic assistance for Angola; and

(e) Also requested the Secretary-General to report to the Assembly at its forty-seventh session on the implementation of the resolution.

2. As suggested by the terms of resolution 46/142, the peace process in Angola, the provision of emergency relief and economic rehabilitation were closely linked during the period under review. The signing of the Peace Accords by the Government of Angola and the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA), on 31 May 1991, opened new possibilities for support and assistance to the Angolan people. The cessation of hostilities enabled the United Nations to assist Angola in the peace process, the movement toward democracy, the expansion of emergency relief activities and planning of resettlement and rehabilitation programmes.

II. ASSISTANCE TO THE PEACE PROCESS

3. Immediately after the Peace Accords were signed, the United Nations Angola Verification Mission (UNAVEM II) was established by the Security Council in its resolution 696 (1991), with an initial mandate of verifying the arrangements agreed to by the Angolan parties for the monitoring of the cease-fire and the monitoring of the Angolan police during the cease-fire period. To this effect, United Nations military and police observers were deployed to 68 locations throughout Angola. Delays have occurred in the implementation of various aspects of the Peace Accords; however, apart from a few scattered incidents without repercussions, there have been virtually no armed confrontations, thanks to the restraint shown by the former belligerents and the presence of the United Nations observers.

4. The mandate of UNAVEM II was enlarged by the Security Council on 24 March 1992 in resolution 747 (1992) to include the observation and verification of the elections. The Secretary-General appointed a Special Representative to head UNAVEM II. The Special Representative was responsible for coordinating all United Nations operations in the country related to the peace process and the holding of free and fair elections, which occurred on 29 and 30 September 1992.

5. The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) assisted the Government in the planning and implementation of registration and other aspects of the electoral process through a technical assistance team based in Luanda. This team dealt with logistics, implementation of the electoral law, civic education, human rights issues and the organization of the registration and voting, always bearing in mind that these were the responsibility of the Government of Angola through the National Electoral Council.

6. The United Nations gave further direct support to the peace process through its programme of assistance to soldiers and families in assembly areas while awaiting demobilization. The appeal launched in October 1991 for US$ 27 million received an excellent response from the international community, almost totally covering the needs identified. Through this programme a total of 11,380 tons of maize, 1,898.8 tons of rice, 927.8 tons of beans, 496.3 tons of vegetable oil, 103.2 tons of fish, 75.3 tons of salt, 58.3 tons of sugar, 202.0 tons of corn/soy blend (CSB) and 667,000 units of meals-ready-to-eat were distributed. Due to the critical situation of need faced in the assembly areas and its potential political implications, the World Food Programme (WFP) quickly responded by using emergency food resources available in Angola at the time to feed the cantoned soldiers. Regarding non-food items, the following have been supplied through the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF): 7,818 blankets, 4,660 bed sheets, 3,982 tents, 6,740 family kits, 46,200 hoes, 15,400 machetes and 156.5 tons of seeds. These latter inputs will be directly useful to the soldiers turned civilians in their efforts to return to productive peace-time activities.

III. SPECIAL RELIEF PROGRAMME FOR ANGOLA

7. While facilitating the peace process, the United Nations system has also assisted Angola in its efforts to alleviate the suffering of those most afflicted by the man-made and natural disasters of the past several years. The first phase of the Special Relief Programme for Angola (SRPA), which had been in effect since October 1990, drew to a close at the same time as the hostilities, in mid-1991. The new climate created by the cease-fire accorded the United Nations the opportunity to re-launch SRPA in a slightly different form, emphasizing rehabilitation over emergency relief.

8. The second phase of SRPA (SRPA-II) was officially launched by the Secretary-General in December 1991. SRPA-II, like its predecessor, is a United Nations-led programme, because of the perceived difficulty the Government would have had in implementing neutral, non-partisan relief

projects in a physically and politically divided country. However, while SRPA-I responded to the drought and war emergency in the nine south-central provinces of the country, SRPA-II targets the whole country with greater emphasis on longer-range rehabilitation of infrastructure and basic services.

9. The main objectives of this new phase of SRPA are the reintegration of about 1.4 million persons (displaced persons, returnees and demobilized soldiers and their families) who have been most affected by the war; assistance to over 50,000 abandoned children and about 40,000 disabled persons; improvement of basic services including water and sanitation; and the extension of immunization coverage throughout the country. Within this framework, WFP has programmed food aid for 457,884 persons in nine provinces. SRPA-II also provides for distribution of seeds and agricultural tools to resettling populations with a view to increasing their agricultural production.

10. Among its rehabilitative components, SRPA-II targets infrastructure (roads, bridges, health posts) vital to the provision of emergency aid. Agricultural projects promote reforestation and resource protection, as well as the re-establishment of basic trade mechanisms through the provision of consumer goods to encourage surplus and exchange. Against a total appeal of US$ 167 million, only US$ 58 million had been pledged through mid-July. This has meant that the greater part of the activities envisaged are not being implemented. The components receiving the least support are the non-food sectors, in particular health, water and agricultural projects.

11. A number of non-governmental organizations operating in Angola have become key partners with the United Nations in the implementation of SRPA. Having recognized in the Programme a means of extending their relief interventions into previously inaccessible areas, they participated from the early stages of SRPA in United Nations-organized convoys to primary and secondary distribution sites. The non-governmental organizations were able to mobilize considerable resources from donors for this purpose, providing an important complement to United Nations assistance efforts.

12. During both phases of SRPA, Care International, German Agro Action and Catholic Relief Services (CRS) distributed food aid to large segments of the affected population in cooperation with WFP. These three organizations together with Save the Children Fund, OXFAM and the Lutheran World Federation (LWF) distributed much-needed agricultural inputs on behalf of UNICEF and the Angolan Ministry of Agriculture. Médecins sans Frontières (MSF)-Belgium and MSF-Spain worked closely with UNICEF and the Ministry of Health in providing medical assistance.

13. Despite their combined efforts, the United Nations and non-governmental organizations are unable to meet the large-scale emergency needs that persist, particularly in view of the lack of donor funding.

IV. REPATRIATION OF ANGOLAN REFUGEES

14. The situation of Angolans who fled to neighbouring countries during the war deserves special consideration within the emergency context. The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) has estimated that some 300,000 Angolans desire to return to their homes in Angola, including 150,000 from Zaire and 100,000 from Zambia. By the end of August, some 77,500 had returned spontaneously or in group repatriations organized by UNHCR. The majority have been assisted by UNHCR with transportation, food, clothing and household kits. Several nongovernmental organizationss have collaborated with UNHCR, and WFP food has been used to ensure the survival of these families en route to their villages of origin.

15. The UNHCR appeal for international assistance to carry out the organized programme of repatriation was launched in June 1992, requesting US$ 55.3 million. While some of these funds are required in Zambia and Zaire to prepare the movement of refugees, UNHCR will spend the better part on returnees in Angola. Transit centres with shelter and sanitation facilities have been established at six sites in northern Angola and three sites in eastern Angola. The Government intends to open eight additional border posts shortly to facilitate the homecoming of refugees. UNHCR has emphasized its intention to concentrate efforts on the effective transportation of returnees, rather than spending scarce resources on the transit centres. The major difficulties to be overcome are the insufficient number of trucks and the deplorable state of the roads. The first organized movements from Zambia began in August, and those from Zaire will start in October. However, the continuity of repatriation exercises will depend entirely on the mobilization of resources.

V. REGIONAL DROUGHT EMERGENCY

16. The launching on 26 May 1992 of the consolidated appeal for the drought emergency in southern Africa provided a new impetus for rehabilitation activities in Angola. Of a total of US$ 81 million requested for Angola, donors responded with nearly US$ 30 million, providing further evidence of the international community's support for Angola's emergency and rehabilitation needs. It is clear, however, that the most vital needs of Angola's affected population have still not been adequately addressed by the international donor community. The assistance pledged for Angola in the context of the regional drought emergency virtually ignores the non-food sectors of health, nutrition, water and sanitation and relief and survival needs. Agricultural inputs (seeds and tools), medicines, clothes, blankets and other household items are the most urgent needs of the country.

VI. PROGRESS FROM EMERGENCY TO REHABILITATION

17. Since the signing of the Peace Accords, the international community and the Government of Angola have directed most of their attention to the demobilization of troops, the formation of the new army, the planning of elections and other issues of direct relevance to the peace process. After the installation of the newly elected government, however, it is expected that this trend will change. It will then be time for the formulation of a comprehensive rehabilitation programme. Donor communities have already expressed interest in supporting such a programme.

18. A core set of rehabilitation projects has already been set forth in a series of international appeals, from SRPA-I to SRPA-II to the drought appeal for southern Africa and the refugee resettlement programme. They provide the basis for a comprehensive programme aimed at strengthening commercial and subsistence agricultural production; re-establishing basic services in health, education, water and sanitation; rebuilding the physical structures of roads, bridges and industry; and ensuring that all Angolans have access to safe and productive lives.

19. The activities already undertaken in compliance with General Assembly resolution 46/142, as communicated to the Secretary-General by entities of the United Nations system, Member States and other donors, are described below.

A. Assistance by entities of the United Nations system

1. United Nations Children's Fund

20. UNICEF support has included provision of supplies for an outbreak of dysentery-related diseases and a special programme for the families of demobilized soldiers. As part of SRPA-II, UNICEF continues to implement relief and rehabilitation programmes in health-, water- and nutrition-related activities, including special provisions for children affected by war. As Angola begins its rehabilitation phase, there is a need to expand the efforts that began with the establishment of corridors of peace, to make all areas accessible.

2. United Nations Development Programme

21. Following the May 1991 Peace Accords, efforts have been made to address, through SRPA-II, the problems of approximately 900,000 internally displaced persons, up to 300,000 returnees and the tremendous number of other needy Angolan nationals. UNDP has continued to provide key support to SRPA, including through the work of the UNDP Resident Representative serving as the United Nations Special Coordinator and through major staffing, administrative and financial assistance (including over $4.3 million in UNDP/IPF funds) for the operation of the United Nations Emergency Coordination Unit.

22. UNDP was deeply involved in the electoral process in Angola through its project for support to the electoral process. It is also directly involved in assistance to demobilizing soldiers of both the Government and UNITA through its vocational training project, with the creation of 50 training centers throughout the country. A major thrust of UNDP assistance consists of projects in support of the reform process. These projects are reinforced by the Management Development Programme with several components, all aimed at supporting economic and administrative management.

23. UNDP anticipates playing an important part in the national rehabilitation programme.

3. United Nations Environment Programme

24. Within the framework of the regional advisory services of the UNEP Regional Office for Africa, Angolan nationals have been provided with fellowships to enable them to attend training activities or workshops/conferences where environmental issues have been discussed. A total of 3 fellowships was provided amounting to US$ 8,029 during the reporting period.

25. It should also be mentioned that UNEP, together with the UNDP Regional Bureau for Africa and the Government of Portugal, is developing a special technical assistance and cooperation programme, which will assist Africa's Portuguese/Spanish-speaking countries in the implementation of environmental management programmes.

26. Angola is a member of the Southern Africa Subregional Environment Group, composed of the directors of environment of the SADCC countries. The Group has been set up by UNEP for the purpose of promoting subregional cooperation on the environment. Angola also benefits from cooperation between UNEP and the Southern African Development Coordination Conference (SADCC). An example of this is UNEP's assistance in the preparation of the Zambezi River Development Action Plan and related activities.

4. World Food Programme

27. WFP provides assistance to a multi-purpose project aimed at the rehabilitation of southern Angola. The objectives of the project are to contribute to the reactivation of the economy of southern Angola through increased production of food and industrial goods, development of skills and the reconstruction and maintenance of physical infrastructure. Food assistance is foreseen in the fields of fisheries, vessel repair and maintenance, temporary settlement of displaced families, boarding schools, training, well construction, construction of classrooms, reforestation, among others. The total cost to WFP is US$ 9,361,500.

28. In the social sector, WFP is contributing with a project to assist orphanages and day-care centres. Food aid is provided with the objectives of enabling the State Secretariat for Social Affairs (SEAS) to offer a balanced diet to orphans in its care; providing budgetary support to SEAS in order to help strengthen orphanages and kindergartens; and releasing women to work in urban areas. The total cost to WFP is US$ 8,701,270. WFP received a request from the Government to extend this project from the beginning of 1994 for another four-year period.

29. Within the framework of SRPA, WFP is the coordinator for the assessment, mobilization, delivery and distribution of both emergency food aid and logistical infrastructure inputs. In this second phase of the programme, WFP is distributing about 64,800 tons of food to 458,000 internally displaced persons and 300,000 Angolan returnees at a total cost of US$ 36.6 million.

30. In the context of emergency food assistance for demobilizing the armed forces in Angola, WFP supplies about 21,300 tons of food to 250,000 demobilized Angolan troops and their families at a total cost of US$ 11 million. The troops are being demobilized in 48 specific assembly points throughout the country in both Government and UNITA-held areas.

5. Economic Commission for Africa

31. ECA conducted a training course on the Integrated Microcomputer Processing System (IMPS) for national staff involved in the analysis of Angolan census data.

6. United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat)

32. Following its technical assistance in connection with a national shelter strategy workshop in early 1990, Habitat has undertaken technical assistance missions to Angola and produced two reports that will form the basis for the elaboration of projects pertaining to housing and squatter upgrading in Luanda and municipal management in Lubango.

33. Currently, Habitat is executing a UNDP-funded project entitled "Housing Sector Administration", and plans to undertake a comprehensive review of the human settlements sector with a view to assisting the Government in the development of a programme of support to the sector.

7. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

34. The FAO Global Information and Early Warning System (GIEWS) Crop and Food Supply Assessment Mission to southern Africa in March-April 1992 concluded that the food situation in the 1992/1993 marketing year would be similar to the previous years, with production falling well below domestic requirements, but with a slight improvement resulting from increased output, helped by some

recovery of economic activities, improved transport availability and better marketing possibilities resulting from the peace process. FAO issued a report of the mission's findings on 15 April and provided input to the consolidated United Nations/SADCC appeal of May 1992 for the drought emergency in southern Africa.

8. World Health Organization

35. WHO posted a relief coordinator in Angola to assist the Special Representative of the Secretary-General with assessment missions and relief operations after the peace agreement of 31 May 1991. WHO also contributed to the appeal for SRPA-II with the establishment of health profiles in all 18 provinces of the country.

36. WHO and the Ministry of Health collaborated in the training of public health officials in the control of cholera and diarrhoeal diseases. Mobile vaccination teams of UNITA ensured immunization coverage in the provinces of Cuemba and Bie. An evaluation of the immunization programme in areas under UNITA control was carried out in February 1992.

37. A specific project is being devised to provide health care in the 48 assembly areas where government and UNITA soldiers will be demobilized. After a multiparty meeting in January 1992 a number of bilateral missions visited Angola, including those from Italy, South Africa and Spain, and tentative plans were drawn up for reconstruction of health services.

38. A major problem was the development of parallel health structures in several provinces. Where no government authority existed, trained UNITA personnel had successfully substituted for State-run services. UNITA representatives continued to control 11 of 16 municipalities in Uige province. In Bie province, however, UNITA had instructed its representatives to rehabilitate and equip health posts and hospitals in areas already served by Ministry of Health facilities.

39. WHO participated in the United Nations/SADCC appeal launched in May 1992, formulating a request for US$ 449,000 for support to emergency health interventions related to the drought.

B. Assistance by Member States and other donors

1. Brazil

40. The Governments of Brazil and Angola signed, on 11 June 1980, an Agreement on Scientific and Technical Cooperation. Additionally, the following instruments have been signed:

(a) Complementary Agreement in the Area of Agricultural Research and Rural Extension, in January 1989;

(b) Protocol of Cooperation between the National Bank of Angola (BNA) and the National Bank for Economic and Social Development (BNDES), in August 1989;

(c) "Aide Memoire" on the 1990-1992 Brazil-Angola Programme of Technical Cooperation.

41. In 1991, bilateral negotiations were held with a view to further defining the activities foreseen in the Triennial Technical Cooperation Programme 1990-1992. During President Fernando Collor's visit to Angola from 8 to 10 September 1991, it was agreed that a high-level mission, comprising representatives of the Brazilian Cooperation Agency (ABC) and of the Africa Department of the Ministry of External Relations (DEAF) would visit Angola during 1992 in order to define the implementation of activities for the current year.

42. The Institute for the Organization and Administration of the State (INORADE) of Angola sent a mission to Brazil from 30 June to 12 July 1991. The Director of INORADE, Dr. Luiz Genzaga Wawouti, stressed the need for the preparation of a project to assist in the institutional organization of the Institute. To this end, he recommended the extension of the project entitled "Strengthening of the public sector", supported by UNDP.

43. A technical mission from the Brazilian Charcoal Association visited Luanda from 1 to 16 April 1991 and prepared a proposal for technical cooperation in the areas of technical improvement of charcoal production and reforestry for energy and desertification control. The two projects, "Luanda Woodfuel" and "Forest Management and Charcoal Production" were submitted to the Angolan authorities in June 1991.

44. Discussions are under way between the State Secretariat for Energy of Angola and the National Secretariat for Energy of Brazil aiming at an agreement for the training in Brazil of Angolan technicians in the energy sector, to be implemented by FURNAS - Centrais Electricas do Brasil.

45. In November 1991, the Director of the Geology Service of Angola, Mr. Germano Araujo, visited Brazil and expressed interest in an agreement for technical cooperation between the Secretariat of Geology and Mines of Angola and the National Department of Mineral Production/Research and Mineral Resources Company (DNPM/CPRM) of Brazil. A draft agreement has been prepared and will be discussed during the ABC/DEAF high level mission to Angola.

46. During the visit of President Fernando Collor to Angola, a Protocol of Intent was signed by the two Governments with a view to developing activities for the support of children and youth. In October 1991, Mr. Goncalves Manuel Muandumba, President of the National Institute for the Development of the Child, of Angola, visited Brazil and had discussions with Brazilian institutions and non-governmental organizations dealing with children and adolescents at Brasilia, Sao Paulo and Rio de Janeiro.

47. The Brazilian Association of State Bodies for Technical Assistance and Rural Extension has prepared a proposal for a project for the production of vegetables in the outskirts of Luanda. The project will be presented to Angolan authorities during the ABC/DEAF high-level mission to Angola.

48. In the educational sector, Brazil admits, under the terms of a bilateral agreement, Angolan students to Brazilian universities. Currently, there are 114 such Angolan students undertaking graduate and post-graduate courses in Brazil.

2. Denmark

49. Danish emergency assistance to Angola in 1991 amounted to Dkr 2 million.

3. Germany

50. In 1992, the Government of Germany will support a food aid project in Angola; the overall amount of this project (5,000 tons of wheat) will be DM 2,800,000.

51. In the field of bilateral collaboration Germany has provided DM 2 million for a fund for technical cooperation and DM 3 million for a fund for financial cooperation for students and skilled labour. With these means, new project approaches for future economic cooperation will be identified.

52. For assistance through non-governmental organizations, the Government of Germany provided in 1991/92 funds amounting to DM 23.5 million, including DM 11.1 million in 1991 and DM 7 million in 1992 for food aid. Furthermore, the following amounts for humanitarian assistance were provided through German non-governmental organizations:

In 1991:	Caritas Germany (DCV)	DM 380,000
	German Agro Action	DM 40,000
In 1992:	German Agro Action	DM 280,000 (projected)
	Johanniter Unfallhilfe	DM 120,000

4. Ireland

53. Ireland made one disaster relief allocation in 1990 for UNICEF for health and shelter elements of their emergency programme to a total value of £Ir 50,000. There was one allocation in 1991 under the non-governmental organization Co-Financing Scheme to OXFAM in Ireland for the establishment of a Disabled People's Workshop. Ireland has also participated in European Community long-term and emergency aid programmes for Angola.

5. Italy

54. Angola has been a first priority country for Italian development cooperation since November 1989. Considering the enormous amount of the actual needs and the necessity of sustaining the ongoing political transition process, Italy has stressed the necessity to give early consideration to the country's post-war reconstruction needs, by participating, on the one hand, in multilateral initiatives (with a US$ 2.5 million contribution in food aid to SRPA and a financial participation of 8 million ECU in the "European Community Platform for Angola"), and, on the other hand, by financing specific bilateral cooperation projects.

55. At the latest meeting of the Italian-Angolan Joint Commission (November 1991), new priorities have been agreed upon: integration of the demobilized soldiers of the two armies in the social and productive life (in the framework of the Peace Accords); extension of the Southern concentration area to Huambo Province; and a greater emphasis has been laid on the integration of the Angolan economy in the regional framework, with special priority to economic and social rehabilitation projects in the Kunene Province, near the Namibian border. The total commitment of the Government of Italy for these activities is 420 billion lires, of which 265 million is in grants and 155 million in development loans. This amount does not include emergency or food aid, non-governmental organizations-funded projects, professional training activities in Italy, fellowships or multilateral financial contributions that are covered by other budgetary resources.

6. Norway

56. Norwegian development assistance to Angola amounted in 1991 to NKr 63 million. This figure includes NKr 35.5 million related to regional activities within the framework of SADCC. An amount of NKr 12.5 million was disbursed to the United Nations programme for the demobilization of military forces. This level of assistance will be maintained in 1992.

7. Poland

57. During the present academic year there are 82 scholarship students from Angola studying in Poland. The annual cost of education of one student is US$ 4,000.

58. In the past, Poland granted some humanitarian assistance through the Polish Red Cross, the Solidarity Committee with Peoples of Asia and Africa and charitable church organizations. Presently, due to the severe financial situation this assistance virtually does not exist.

8. Republic of Korea

59. During 1991, the Government of the Republic of Korea contributed US$ 30,000 to Angola in emergency relief funds.

9. Sweden

60. In Angola, SKr 70 million was disbursed for disaster relief during the fiscal year 1990/1991. Concerning disaster relief for the fiscal year 1991/1992, approximately SKr 20.68 million has been allocated. From the country programme, an additional SKr 68 million has been used for disaster relief during the same period.

10. Turkey

61. Turkey has sent draft technical cooperation agreements to Angola as well as proposals for group training programmes in Turkey.

11. United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

62. In the financial year to April 1992, 1.5 million pounds of emergency aid and 2.49 million pounds of food aid were committed to Angola. This is in addition to ongoing technical cooperation in the form of English language and training activities with a budget of around 500,000 pounds per annum.

63. Aid commitments to Angola since the adoption of General Assembly resolution 46/142 total 817,000 pounds (as of June 1992):

(a) 200,000 pounds through WFP for the United Nations emergency appeal for armed forces awaiting demobilization (January 1992, being the second part of a 900,000 pound pledge of which 700,000 pounds was paid in November 1991);

(b) 270,000 pounds for the UNDP Special Project of Assistance to the Angolan Elections, for provision of 20 Landrovers and a cash contribution of US$ 90,000;

(c) 105,000 pounds to SRPA-II to fund the cost of one UNDP Senior Field Coordinator for twelve months from April 1992;

(d) 100,000 pounds for provision of bailey bridging to the Ministry of Public Works;

(e) 92,000 pounds through OXFAM in January 1992 for food aid (1,000 tons);

(f) 50,000 pounds in March 1992 through Acord for refugees in Angola.

64. The United Kingdom is currently considering further response, probably through support to non-governmental organizations under the umbrella of SRPA-II for rural rehabilitation projects.

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ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK

Letter dated 14 October 1992 from the Permanent Representative of Croatia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

You have provided that the letter dated 7 October 1992 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Yugoslavia to the United Nations be circulated as a document of the forty-seventh session of the General Assembly under agenda item 92 (document A/C.3/47/3).

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Croatia to the United Nations wishes to draw your attention to resolution 47/1, adopted by the General Assembly at its 7th plenary meeting, on 22 September 1992, in which the Assembly decided "that the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) ... shall not participate in the work of the General Assembly". There is no doubt that this decision also applies to the work in all of the Committees of the General Assembly. We wish to stress that the circulation of a document is, in our belief, a clear act of active participation in the work of the General Assembly, and therefore a breach of the provisions of resolution 47/1.

However, we wish to reiterate that it is not our intention to obstruct or prevent the Permanent Mission of Yugoslavia from issuing and distributing documents in the United Nations, but we believe that the resolutions and decisions of the relevant bodies of the United Nations should be observed and upheld.

We kindly request that you provide that the distribution of document A/C.3/47/3 be halted, and further attempts of the delegation of Yugoslavia to distribute their communications as documents of the General Assembly prevented.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 8.

(Signed) Dr. Mario NOBILO
Ambassador
Permanent Representative